

REEMT RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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HEALTH
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June, 1957.

Gentlemen,

The following is my Report for the year 1956. The statistics are based on a population of 1,980 persons, as compared with 2,000 in 1955. The area of your district is 74,536 acres or 116 square miles. The density is therefore 17 persons per square mile. The number of inhabited houses is 892.

The main industry now is purely agriculture.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	Total	M.	F.	Rate per 1,000 Population
	21	10	11	10.6
Illegitimate	-	-	-	
Still Births	-	-	-	
Deaths under one year	-	-	-	
Deaths	22	11	11	11.11



Deaths from puerperal causes	Nil
Deaths from Cancer	5
Deaths from Measles	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea under two years	Nil

The Home Nursing is carried out by a nurse resident at Healaugh, relieved by Richmond. The Richmond nurses do the Home Nursing in Hurst and Marrick.

There is no trouble in the area caused by break up of families.

FOOD

Food Premises - Number of Grocers' Shops	20
Number of Dairies	3

Inspected regularly and found satisfactory.

Condemned food is burned or buried.

A number of the shops supply ice cream, and all are satisfactory.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Throat swabs, sputa and stools are sent to the County Pathologist at Northallerton for investigation.

Infectious cases are sent to Darlington.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

Cases are now removed by ambulances from the Depot at Richmond.

Infectious cases are now removed by ambulance from Darlington.

SUMMARY OF DEATHS

	M.	F.
Malignant Breast		1
Other Malignant Disease	2	1
Vascular Lesions		3
Hypertension		1
Coronary Disease	3	1
Other Heart Disease	3	1
Influenza	1	
Bronchitis	1	
Gastro-enteritis		1
Other defined diseases	1	1
Accident		1
	11	11

Total - 22

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN 1953

	M.	F.
Typhoid	-	-
Para-typhoid	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	1
Diphtheria	-	-
Small Pox	-	-
Measles	3	5
Pneumonia	-	-
Malaria	-	-
Ophthalmic Neo-Nasorum	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-
Meningitis	-	-
Dysentery	-	-
	3	6

Total - 9

The year has been remarkably free from Infectious Disease



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TUBERCULOUS DISEASE

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

No new cases or deaths from Tuberculous Disease

The Water Supply of the whole Rural District still causes considerable concern, but owing to the enormous expense matters are quite at a stand-still. Perhaps something may be achieved in 1937.

The taps in the school yards show faecal and non-faecal coli especially after a spate. There is no alimentary disease among the school-children.

I remain,

Gentlemen,

Respectfully Yours,

W. C. STEERS.

REETH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

To the Chairman and Members of the Reeth Rural District Council:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report as Public Health Inspector and Surveyor for the District for the year ending 31st December, 1956.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLIES AND SEWERAGE

During the year under review, no progress is to be reported in connection with the provision of new schemes of water supply to serve the consumers with adequate and wholesome water throughout the area. In consequence of this, no new schemes of sewerage or sewage disposal have been implemented.

Of the existing supplies, the supply to Grinton has been augmented from the private scheme serving the Youth Hostel, providing an additional 10,000 gallons per day into the Grinton storage reservoir.

In addition, as the spring already supplying Grinton is inadequately impounded and protected, a local contractor has been instructed to carry out the necessary works of protection so as to obviate surface water pollution.

ANGRAM SUPPLY

Improvements to the impounding and protection of the spring outcrop carried out during the year, have resulted in satisfactory bacteriological analysis being obtained.

C.B. YARD SUPPLY

Here again, the collection springs are inadequately protected, and works of improvement are in the hands of the contractor.

REETH AND FREMINGTON SUPPLY

The headworks of the supply on Fremington Edge being subject to surface pollution, were to be reconstructed, but before doing so several tests were carried out, when it was found that the springs were not impounded at the outcrops, the water running in an open ditch at a higher level. Consequently, at the end of the year, work was in progress extending the supply to the spring outcrops, together with adequate works of impounding and protection.

LOW ROU WATER

New collecting chambers, again to obviate surface pollution, have been provided at the source above Blades.

ILL-TAUGHT WATER

A small spring, easily polluted by surface water, and which quickly disappears during dry weather has been excluded from the supply.

BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

Of the 27 samples taken during the year, listed below are the results:-

Reeth	1 satisfactory; 2 suspicious; 1 unsatisfactory
Gunnarside	Unsatisfactory
Low Row	2 suspicious
Keld	1 satisfactory
Keld Private Supply	1 satisfactory
Healaugh	1 unsatisfactory
Angram	3 satisfactory
Crinton	1 unsatisfactory; 1 suspicious
Fremington	1 satisfactory; 1 suspicious
Reeth Old Supply	Unsatisfactory (now discontinued)
C.B. Yard	Unsatisfactory
Marrick	Satisfactory
Langthwaite & Arkletown	Satisfactory
Crackpot Springs	2 unsatisfactory
Private Supplies	3 satisfactory; 1 unsatisfactory

PROPOSED NEW WATER SCHEMES

The following notes are inserted in this Report so as to give an indication of the Council's continued efforts to provide adequate water supplies throughout the Area. The Council, not wishing on account of the considerable expense, to proceed with the Regional Scheme as approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, and the North Riding County Council, expressed the view that alternative proposals could be carried out at a reduced cost, and yet giving the same area of supply. As there were a number of alternatives the Council had in mind, it was felt that the Ministry could indicate an approval in principle to suitable schemes, after which the normal procedure for the submission of schemes as laid down in the manual of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. However, before this prior approval could be obtained, it was necessary to prepare details of the proposals, and the Council felt that here again considerable expense would be entailed for the services of a Consulting Engineer in preparing the schemes, some of which might not be approved - an expense that would be incurred without any guarantee of the schemes being carried out, as happened with the Regional Scheme. At this impasse, I offered to prepare any proposals the Council had to put forward, and submit the details to the Ministry in an endeavour to obtain approval in principle. The work involved, not having been carried out as part of the normal duties of the Department, has been undertaken out of usual working hours, over the past four years. During the past year, I have again stressed, that on any approvals being obtained, the services of the Consulting Engineer would again be necessary to further the proposals through the various Departments. To date, the Ministry

have given favourable consideration to the scheme to supply from East Gill to Thwaite, the scheme so designed as to enable extension to Gunnerside. Favourable consideration has also been given to a small independent scheme to the hamlet of Crackpot - subject to satisfactory bacteriological analysis over a period being obtained. As regards the remainder of the area covered by the original Regional Scheme, the Council now await the observations of the Ministry in connection with a scheme from the Bauldershaw Moor Springs, giving a similar area of supply to the lower end of the district as far as Harrick. Should this be favourable, it will then be necessary to submit the schemes in full detail through the formal procedure, i.e. first to the North Riding County Council for their observations; to the Planning and Fire Authorities; Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries; Provincial Land Commissioners and finally to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, together with the observations of the County Council, and the terms of agreements with owners, and the District Valuer's Reports on lands to be purchased. As will be appreciated, the foregoing procedure could not be carried out as part time work, and as previously pointed out would require the services of the Consulting Engineer. It is to be observed also, that the proposals now being considered will cost considerably in excess of the figure tendered in 1950 for the Regional Scheme, due to the very heavy increases in the prices of labour and materials, nor do the Council know at this stage what Grant will be made available, the position as it was as far back as 1947, when the Regional Scheme was being considered. As the year under review was marked by its wet seasons, no shortages of water were experienced, and perhaps the need for better supplies was not felt to be so pressing, but this cannot be said of the quality being supplied, the majority of sources now in use being subject to varying degrees of surface pollution.

In view of the foregoing, an early decision on what policy is to be pursued is anxiously awaited, as, if comprehensive schemes are not to be undertaken, improvements to existing supplies, including collection and distribution, should be put in hand forthwith.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Conversions from dry closets to W.C.'s	25
Additional W.C.'s to old Property	2
Water closets provided to new houses	4
Private drainage and cesspools to old property	8
Length in yards of new drains tested	542
Number of tests to existing drainage systems	27

HOUSING

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954

Part I - Clun Clearance

Clearance Areas	Nil
Individual Unfit Houses Demolished	2
Unfit houses, now vacant and subject to undertaking not to be used for human habitation	3

Part II - Repairs Increase

No applications have been received under this part of the Act in respect to Repairs Increase, or Certificates of Disrepair.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY

Number of Houses in the District - 892

Category	1. Satisfactory in all respects	64
"	2. Minor defects	412
"	3. Repairs or structural alterations	400
"	4. Suitable for improvement	364
"	5. Unfit	16

Parish	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Total
Arkengarthdale	1	58	89	(58)	3	151
Ellerton		5	1	(1)		6
Grinton	1	47	37	(35)	2	87
Harrick	1	14	30	(32)		45
Melbecks	12	95	90	(87)	4	201
Muker	5	81	76	(79)	2	164
Reeth	44	112	77	(65)	5	238

HOUSING ACT, 1949 - IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

In approved applications for the purposes of this Act, Council Grants towards approved expenses are now 50%.

Number of Applications	8
Number Approved	6
Total cost of improvements as submitted in Applications	£3,244
Total of "Approved Expenses"	£2,425
Total of Grants offered	£1,211

In each of the applications approved, new bathrooms and water closets have been provided. Five of the houses were in the Housing Survey Class III (IV), and in Class II (IV).

Housing Improvements carried out without Grant Aid under the 1949 Act

NOTE:- In some instances grant aid has been obtained under the Hill Farming Acts.

New Bathrooms	22
New Water Closet systems and drainage	20
Additional W.C.'s to old property	2
Internal piped water supplies	6
Hot water circulation systems	23
Improved kitchens	7
Improved bedroom accommodation	4
Ventilated larders	5
Cesspools	7

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR

1. (a) Total number of houses inspected during the year for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 264
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 321
2. (a) Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation Nil
- (b) Number of houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not in all respects reasonably fit for habitation 197
2. Remedy of defects without service of Formal Notice
Number of houses made fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers 48
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year
 - (a) Proceedings under the Housing Acts in relation to individual unfit houses. Nil
 - (b) Statutory Proceedings under the Public Health Act Nil
 - (c) Proceedings under the Housing Acts for the Demolition of individual unfit houses. NilNumber of houses which were demolished in pursuance of demolition orders. 1
4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding
No overcrowding in the area.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

This service has been well maintained throughout the year. The Arkenjarddale and Feetham Wood Tips being still in use, that on Ellerton Moor has been discontinued during the year.

The two employees, Mr. J. A. Barningham and Mr. J. N. Whitehead, operating the service, have again shown a steady reliability in the execution of their duties throughout all variations in the weather conditions.

Continuing rodent control measures at the tips have prevented any serious infestation.

FOOD

(I) Number and Type of Food Premises in the Area

Slaughterhouses 2; Retail Butchers Shops 2; Butchers Vans retailing Meat 3; Premises Registered for the preparation of Cooked Meats 3; Premises Registered for the preparation of Ice Cream 12; Bakeries 5; Cafes 10; General Dealers Retail Shops 17; Fried Fish Shops 1; General Dealers Retail Vans 3; Wet Fish Shops 1; Vans Retailing Wet Fish 1; Youth Hostels 2; Private Hotels 5; Boarding Houses 26; Licensed Premises 11.

(II) Premises Registered under Section 10 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955

For the preparation of Sausages and Cooked Meats	3
For the preparation of Ice Cream	2
For the sale of Ice Cream	12

Registered Dairies

There are no premises in the area registered with the local authority, the milk retailed being from Producer Retailers.

(III) Inspections of Registered Food Premises

Cooked meat preparation premises	93
Ice Cream Manufacturers	14
Ice Cream Sale Shops	45

The premises registered for the preparation of cooked meats are carried on in a satisfactory manner, with due regard to the cleanliness of utensils, equipment, handling and preparation. The two premises where Ice Cream is manufactured, use only the Cold Mix process, and in each case the article is prepared under hygienic conditions. All premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream, retail only the pre-packed article.

(IV) Food Hygiene - Educational

No educational schemes or clean food guilds have been formed in the area.

(V) Disposal of Condemned Food

For the year under review, this has been negligible, consisting of portions only of offal at slaughter-houses, which has been destroyed by burning. Of other foods, comprising of small numbers of tinned goods, these have been opened and the contents burned.

(VI) No special examination of a consignment of food has been necessary.

(VII) Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations 1947-52

Only the Cold Mix Process is used in this area.

(VIII) Food Hygiene Regulations 1955-56

Retail Food Shops

In all cases these consist of "family shops" with dwelling house attached, and the amount of open food sold is not large. Generally, wash hand basins, soap and towels are available in the bathroom where the W.C. is situated, in addition to hot and cold water at the kitchen sink, usually sited immediately behind the shop.

The Butchers' shops, where also cooked meats and sausages are prepared, and where also slaughtering facilities are available, need more attention to the requirements of washing facilities, and separate wash hand basins with hot and cold running water, soap and towels easily available to the shop are being insisted upon, together with separate sinks for the washing of equipment

and utensils. In one instance these facilities have been provided, and at the other, the work is in progress. The two butchers in Reeth also retail by van within the area, these carry towels and soap, the washing facilities being by arrangement with householders in each village and hamlet.

Licensed Premises

Of the 11 licensed premises in the area, 6 have sinks fitted with hot and cold running water at the bar, at 2 the work of providing these facilities is in progress, 2 have the facilities easily available, the remaining 1 has only a very small trade, glasses being washed at the household sink. This arrangement, taken together with the conditions for the storage of beer and lack of suitable toilet accommodation is not satisfactory, and in this instance further action will be necessary.

Routine inspections are carried out to all licensed premises, with particular attention to the cleanliness of equipment, beer pipes, and storage cellars. During the year under review, improved toilet accommodation has been provided at 3 premises; at 2 works of this nature are in progress.

MEAT INSPECTION

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Horses</u>
Number killed	69	-	-	574	79	-
Number inspected	69	-	-	427	79	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and C. Bovis. Whole Carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parts of Carcase or organs	19	-	-	37	-	-
Percentage	21.6%	-	-	8.5%	-	-
Tuberculosis only whole carcasses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Part of carcase or organs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cysticercus Bovis	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of meat inspection visits	-	-	104			
Total weight involved	-	53 tons	17 cwts.			
Weight condemned	-	288 lbs.				

SCHOOLS

Preparation of meals for schools has been carried out in a satisfactory manner.

The private water supply to the school at Reeth is still subject to surface contamination during heavy rains.

Toilet accommodation at the schools has been well maintained.

RODENT CONTROL

During the year there have been no "major" infestations to be dealt with. Individual treatments for "minor" infestations at dwelling houses have been successfully dealt with.

Council refuse tips and sewage works are subject to regular treatments, and by this means, any infestations have been prevented. Test baits to sewers have been carried out, but no treatment was found to be necessary.

FACTORIES

Routine inspections carried out show that no action under Part 1 of the Act was required.

SHOPS ACT

Routine inspections have been undertaken during the year. No action was necessary in regard to the Health provisions of the Act.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

There have been increases in the number of these structures during the year. The number on the register, five have been well maintained and conducted.

NUISANCES

Inspections for nuisances only	67
Nuisances found	23
Number needing abatement	23
Number abated following informal action	22
Number abated following formal action	1

GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Drainage work in progress	167	Schools	12
Complaints investigated	43	Refuse Collection and	
Public Conveniences	54	Disposal	38
Factories	20	Sewage works	27
Housing Improvement Works	128	Council water	
Licensed premises	68	undertakings	39
Catering establishments	37	Petroleum Regulations	10
Food Hygiene Regulations	211	Building Byelaws	63
Registered premises (Food)	32	Bakehouses	29
Rodent Control	104	Slaughterhouses	104
		Shops Act	16

CONCLUSION

I have pleasure in recording my thanks to the Council, to the Clerk, Mr. M. E. Scott, to the Medical Officer of Health, and to the Financial Officer, Mr. A. E. Pooley, for the courtesy and assistance extended to me during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. V. LETCALFE,

Public Health Inspector & Surveyor.

